

Land and Redevelopment Programs Branch Highlights
Week of January 5, 2020

Hot Issues

Non-Responsive

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Navy/Northrop Grumman, Bethpage, NY: On December 20, 2019, NYSDEC issued a fact sheet announcing the release of an Amended Record of Decision (AROD) for a remedy to address the contaminated groundwater plume pertaining to the adjacent Northrop Grumman (NG) and Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) sites, located in Bethpage. The plume of volatile organic compounds covers an area of roughly five square miles off-site of the former NG and NWIRP facilities, reaching depths of over 800 feet. The AROD presents a comprehensive plan to contain and clean up the groundwater plume and hold the responsible parties, U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman, accountable for its implementation. In addition, the AROD includes a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments received about the proposal. The estimated cost to implement the remedy is \$585 million. On Monday, June 10, 2019, NYSDEC had held a public meeting presenting the Proposed Amended Record of Decision for the sites. The comments received at this meeting and during the public comment period (May 23, 2019 through July 8, 2019), along with the administrative record, were considered in preparing the final AROD for the site.

With the issuance of the AROD, NYSDEC plans to commence accelerated negotiations with the responsible parties for implementation of the selected remedy. If the responsible parties fail to agree to implement the remedy, NYSDEC has indicated that it will implement the remedy and subsequently pursue cost-recovery from the responsible parties. Regardless of which entity implements the remedy, NYSDEC estimates a timeframe of approximately five years to fully design and build the system infrastructure, given the size of the plume and scope of the project. At the same time, NYSDEC expects that the remedial program can be divided into specific components that would allow some phases of the

project to begin earlier than other phases. This would enable cleanup of the Navy Grumman groundwater plume to begin well before the five-years indicated in the AROD. (Carol Stein, x4181)

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Upcoming